(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise in view of (a) and (b) above.

Economic cooperation with US

†634. SHRI SURENDRA LATH:
SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of discussions held between India and US during his five days visit to America on further strengthening economic co-operation with a view to maintain the growth rate at more than seven percent;

(b) whether positive results have accrued as a result of this discussion;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, by when such results would be achieved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) Finance Minister visited United States of America from September 20-25, 2005 to attend Annual Meetings of IMF-World Bank. During this visit, he also participated in India Investment Forum, met CEOs of major US companies at New York; and delivered a lecture in Yale University.

In Washington DC, on the sidelines of the Annual Meetings of IMF-World Bank, Finance Minister met US Treasury Secretary Mr. John Snow and Dr. Ben Bernanke, then Chairman of US President's Council of Economic Advisors. They discussed a broad range of economic and financial issues including ways to increase bilateral economic cooperation: Secretary Snow emphasized the importance of high economic growth in India. They also discussed various global macro economic issues including the impact of high oil prices.

(b) to (d) the bilateral discussions basically facilitate exchange of views on issues of bilateral and global importance. In India, the growth outlook appears favourable.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.